

# SHIPPING TELEGRAPH

## DAILY SHIPPING NEWS



## India's Large Transshipment Port In Kerala Welcomes First Maersk Ship

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**India's pioneering automated container port Vizhinjam in Kerala has welcomed its first mothership, *San Fernando*, a Maersk Line vessel.**

The Marshall-flagged container ship was welcomed on July 12 by Kerala minister of ports, V N Vasavan and minister of ports, shipping and waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, along with other officials at the port.

Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan stated that the realisation of Vizhinjam marks a new chapter in Kerala's development and is a proud moment for both the state and the country.

The port's construction, which commenced on December 5, 2015, is a public-private partnership project with a total investment of ₹8,867 crore.

The Kerala state government contributed approximately ₹5,595 crore, while the central government provided ₹818 crore towards the port's development.

It is estimated that the Vizhinjam port will create over 5,000 direct job opportunities and significantly boost the industry, commerce, transportation, and tourism sectors.

Vijayan credited the committed work of the Adani Group as the key factor in overcoming many obstacles to make the project a reality.

He expressed gratitude to all supporters, highlighting that ports are crucial for economic development, as evidenced by global history.

"Adani Group, the builders and operators of the port, deserve appreciation for their efforts in ensuring the completion of this project," he stated.

The managing director, Adani Karan, of Adani Ports and Logistics, a large commercial ports operator in India, while addressing this historic occasion he said: "The San Fernando at our harbour symbolises a significant milestone in Indian maritime history, signifying the commencement of commercial operations at India's first transshipment terminal and largest deepwater port."

Referring to the port's cutting-edge infrastructure, he mentioned that Vizhinjam will stand out as one of the world's most technologically sophisticated transshipment ports upon completion of automation and the vessel traffic management system.

"The first deepwater international container transshipment terminal of India – the Vizhinjam International Seaport today welcomed its first mothership at the port," minister of ports, shipping & waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, stated.